

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/704,968 | SHIBANUMA ET AL. |
| | Examiner Evelyn Huang | Art Unit 1625 |

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address.*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 3-14-2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 11.
3. The drawings filed on 11-20-2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 11 is allowed.

The rejection for claims 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims.

The provisional rejection under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 13, 14 of copending Application No. 10/656659 is withdrawn in view of the timely filed terminal disclaimer in 10/656659.

The rejection for claims 11, 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugihara (Analytical Sciences, 1993, 9: 593-597, PTO-1449) is withdrawn upon reconsideration in view of Applicant's Remarks and the amendment canceling claim 28 and deleting ethyl, propyl, isopropyl and n-pentyl from the definition of R1 and R2 in claim 11. Sugihara teaches that for the n-alkyl substituted 1,10-phenanthroline compounds, the Li⁺ selectivity decreases as the chain length increases beyond the n-butyl (as in octyl, compound 12), and also as the bulkiness of the alkyl increases (as in s-butyl and t-butyl, compounds 8, 10), (page 595, Table 1; page 596, last paragraph), thereby teaching away from modifying the prior art s-butyl or t-butyl to arrive at the instant isopentyl or neopentyl, or modifying the prior art octyl to arrive at the instant nonyl.

The rejection for claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugihara (Analytical Sciences, 1993, 9: 593-597, PTO-1449) in view of Daniel (4853090) is rendered moot by the cancellation of this claim.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

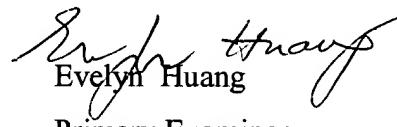
Art Unit: 1625

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Evelyn Huang whose telephone number is 571-272-0686. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on 571-272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Evelyn Huang

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 1625
